Oklahoma Chess Monthly

JUNE 2018

Chess News and Chess History for Oklahoma

GM Timur Gareyev in Tulsa

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FKB Memorial #2 Won By Advait Patel • and • "Blindfold King" GM Gareyev's Exhibition

by Tom Braunlich

The weekend of May 18-20 saw two big chess events in Tulsa: an impressive 7-player blindfold chess exhibition and lecture by GM Timur Gareyev, the 'blindfold king', and the 2nd annual Frank K Berry Memorial tournament of traditional chess, in which GM Gareyev played.

The events were sponsored by Harold Brown, and organized by the OCF, with TD Jim Berry and assitant Tom Braunlich.

This report covers both events.

For the clash between GM Gareyev and IM Patel, see the "Game of the Month" (page 15). For other games from the tournament see the games section beginning page 8.

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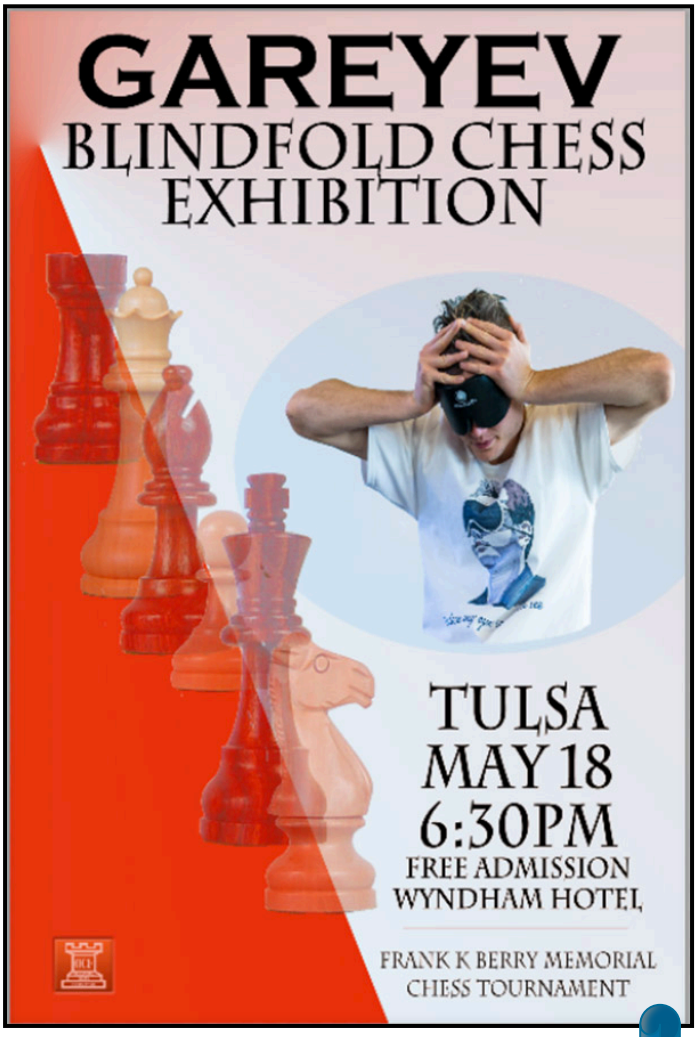
The Blindfold King Comes to Tulsa



About 50 spectators came to the Tulsa Wyndham on Friday night to see GM Timur Gareyev — holder of the official world record for blindfold simultaneous chess play — take on seven Okie tournament players in exhibition play.

It had been decades since Tulsa hosted a top grandmaster in an exhibition, and never a blindfold event. Among those on hand was NM D. Ballard, Oklahoma's first master.

Gareyev began with a discussion about blindfold chess that was rather rambling, as befits his personality, but which boiled down to (1) you should try it, but (2) there is no secret formula for how to do it well. He said his own experience with it evolved naturally. As a talented player he was naturally able to play a game without sight of the board easily, but only later in his career did he try to do more than one at a time. He started doing that during his public appearances, and improved by experimenting with different approaches. He said that blindfold experts and memory experts use different techniques for their performances. For him, a relaxed approach with almost zen-like features worked best. As he increased his capacity for multiple blindfold games he tried different ways to stay relaxed while also "keeping the blood pumping."

Eventually after he was able to do 10 games he began to consider the idea of going for the world record. For a long time the great Alekhine had held the world record of 45 games. In recent years another player had pushed that to 46. Timur decided to go for 48 — but would need to "train" for it. He spent years perfecting this craft, building up his capacity. He began using a "spin bike"

> "I found that 'staying in the moment' is the key."
> —Gareyev on blindfold technique

(stationary bicycle) to help him concentrate, often with drinks and snacks at his side for energy.

Finally in late 2016 in Las Vegas he set the world record in an exhibition that took over 19 hours, and was recognized by Guiness Worlds Records (even though the video from the event was lost!)

"Staying in the moment is the key," he said, which was typical of his zen-like statements and approach.

For his exhibition in Tulsa, only seven opponents were played, so that the event didn't last too long. Most of the seven players had earned the spots by winning some qualifying prizes at other OCF events earlier in the year. Two seats were reserved for members of the media who might want to try it, but no one took us up on that so we offered them to some other worthy players.

The final roster was an interesting mix:

SEVEN PLAYERS:
1 Adonis Turner (2100)
2 Veronika Zilajeva (2033)
3 Istvan Szabad (1450)
4 Oscar Wang (1586)
5 Gabe Teubner (1350)
6 Ryan Amburgy (1880)
7 Joe Dean Veal (2005)

It was a "clock simul" with each player receiving 50 minutes per game, while Gareyev had 90 minutes plus a 1 minute increment on each clock, but of course his time was often ticking on many boards while he was working on another game.

He also demonstrated his phenomenal memory by recalling a position from one of his blindfold games, by memory, from an exhibition he did in Davis, OK, three years ago; and showing the sparkling double-rook sacrifice he found in that game (against expert David Zelnick).

A host "Mover" would go around the boards announcing each player's move (and checking it was legal). Gareyev would recall the current position in that game, and then consider his move and announce it. The Mover would make that move for him and punch his clock.

Gareyev's final score was 6½ out of 7.

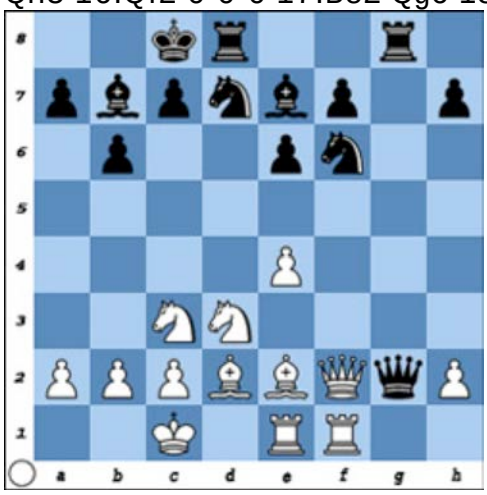
But it was not without some hiccups. Adonis Turner had him on the ropes for much of the game only to mess it up later in a time scramble. Joe Veal also had a good game and missed a couple drawing lines.

In his game with Gabe Teubner the GM confused the moves with another game that was similar and had to take back a few moves to reset it, which he was allowed to do in a couple cases where the problem was one of communication. Later in that game Gareyev was up a rook, but forgot where his king was and played what he thought was a winning move but actually it allowed a back rank mate of his king. "Are you sure you want to do that?" asked the Mover, Jim Berry. "Oh, my king is on h8 not g8; that would be quite a gift. Why don't we just split the difference and call it a draw?" Gabe charitably agreed to that, and he was the only one to score against the master.

The other games went remarkably smoothly, with Gareyev able to handle some pretty complicated positions and play at a high level.

Here is an example game to show the level of his play:

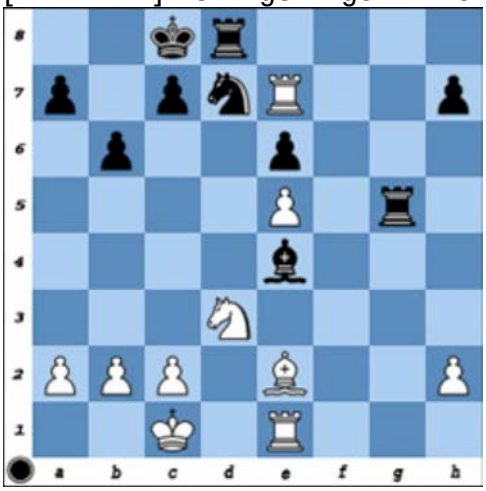
Gareyev, Timur (2668)
Veal, Joe Dean (2006)
[C15] Blindfold Exhibition, 18.05.2018
[TB]
White is playing blindfolded seven games simultaneously. This is one of his impressive wins.
1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bd2 dxe4 5.Qg4 Nf6 6.Qxg7 Rg8 7.Qh6 Qxd4 8.0-0-0 Nbd7 9.f3 Rg6 10.Qh4 Qe5 11.Nh3 Be7 [11...exf3!? 12.Qxb4 fxg2 13.Bxg2 Rxg2~] 12.Re1 b6 13.Nf4 Rg8 14.fxe4 Bb7 15.Nd3 Qh5 16.Qf2 0-0-0 17.Be2 Qg6 18.Rhf1 Qxg2



19.e5 Qxf2
Here Joe misses a good move to keep the balance:

19…Ne4! 20.Qxg2 Rxg2 21.Nxe4 Bxe4 22.Rxf7 Bh4!;
The best line for white after 19…Ne4! apparently is this tactical feast: 20.Nxe4 Bxe4 21.Qxf7! Bh4 22.Nf4 Bxe1 23.Nxg2 Bxd2+ 24.Kb1 *(24.Kxd2 Nxe5+)* 24…Rxg2 25.Ba6+ Kb8 26.Qxd7! Bg5 27.Qa4 Bxc2+ 28.Qxc2 Rxc2 29.Kxc2=]

20.Rxf2 Ne4 21.Nxe4 Bxe4 22.Rxf7 Bg5 [22…Bh4=] 23.Bxg5 Rxg5 24.Re7



24…Nf8?
[24…Bf5 25. 26.Ba6+!;
25…Rg8 26.Nxe6 Nxe6 27.Rxe6 Rg2 28.Rh6±]

25.Nf4 Bf5

[25…Rxe5? 26.Ba6+!; 25…Rg8 26.Nxe6 Nxe6 27.Rxe6 Rg2 28.Rh6±]

26.Ba6+ Kb8 27.Rd1! Rxd1+ 28.Kxd1 c5 29.Rb7+ Ka8 30.Rc7 1-0
Impressive play.

Thanks to Timur's assistant Jennifer Valens for putting together the logistics and live streaming video of the event. Also thanks to Harold Brown for sponsoring this unique chess event!

Veronika Zilajeva meets four Oklahoma chess VIPs at the Gareyev exhibition …

Harold Brown (sponsor),

Jim Berry (former USCF president),

D. Ballard (first chess master from Oklahoma),

and chess veteran Joe Hill.

IM Advait Patel wins 2nd annual Frank K Berry Memorial

IM Advait Patel

The 2nd FKB Memorial was held May 19-20 in Tulsa at the Wyndham Hotel, and was dominated by the two titled players who competed. GM Gareyev stayed on after his exhibition Friday night, and he was joined Saturday by IM Advait Patel from Midwest City. 52 players competed in the two-section event, a slightly disappointing turnout, but both sections were hard fought with many good games that are covered here.

Gareyev and Patel met in the fourth round in a much-anticipated matchup. They had played a few times before in the past — all draws — but this was a full-blooded fight in the Four Pawns Attack of the King's Indian which was impressively won by Patel.

(See the "Game of the Month" for full annotation of this game, page 18).

Patel went on to beat David Luscomb in the last round to go 5-0 and win $1000 1st place. He will be looking this Summer to earn his final GM norm, and will also play in the strong U.S. Junior Invitational Championship in St. Louis.

Gareyev finished 4-1 with clear 2nd place ($210). NM Bill Orton, expert Sheena Zeng, and top A player Ryan Amburgy came next with 3.5 scores.

The Reserve section was also remarkably hard fought, and ended in a four-way tie for first. Young Sky Moerlien was looking very impressive going 4-0 with some nice wins, but he was knocked off by Oscar Wang in round 5. They were joined with 4-1 scores by Istvan Szabad and Henry J Elliott.

(See full crosstable details, next page).

There was one bizarre oddity from this event that you just know Frank Berry would have loved…

Bill Orton had a 6-move win in round 2, followed by a 10-move loss in round 3. Both games he was white in the Scotch Opening 1. e4, e5 2. d4 ed4 3. Nf3.

This must be a world record of some sort — 16 moves for two complete tournament games(!) and the players were all rated over 2000.

[Date "May 19, 2018"] [Round "2"]
[White "Orton, Bill"] 2200
[Black "Long, James"] 2035

1. e4 e5 2. d4 exd4 3. Nf3 Nc6 4. Bc4 Be7 5. c3 dxc3 6. Qd5 1-0

[Date "May 19, 2018"] [Round "3"]
[White "Orton, Bill"] 2200
[Black "GM Gureyev, Timor"] 2650

1. e4 e5 2. d4 exd4 3. Nf3 Bc5 4. Bc4 d6 5. Nxd4 Nc6 6. Nb3 Bb6 7. O-O Qh4 8. g3 Qh3 9. Re1 Bg4 10. Bf1 Bxf2+ 0-1

More annotated games beginning on page 8.

The event was sponsored by Harold Brown, directed by Jim Berry and Tom Braunlich.

Frank K Berry Memorial 2018
Open Section
May 19-20 2018 • Tulsa • TDs: Jim Berry, Tom Braunlich

	Player Name (Pre->Post)		Total Pts	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5
1	IM ADVAIT PATEL	OK 2585->2596	5.0	W 20	W 4	W 19	W 2	W 6
2	GM TIMUR GAREYEV	KS 2668->2661	4.0	W 10	W 9	W 3	L 1	W 8
3	NM BILL ORTON	AR 2200->2205	3.5	W 15	W 7	L 2	D 8	W 9
4	SHEENA ZENG	KS 2016->2029	3.5	W 21	L 1	W 15	W 14	D 5
5	RYAN AMBURGY	OK 1881->1932	3.5	W 22	D 6	D 9	W 19	D 4
6	DAVID LUSCOMB	OK 2068->2072	3.0	W 11	D 5	D 14	W 7	L 1
7	JAMES LONG	OK 2006->2001	3.0	W 12	L 3	W 16	L 6	W 15
8	JEFF COLBERT	OK 1984->1998	3.0	H	W 25	W 11	D 3	L 2
9	VERONIKA ZILAJEVA	OK 2033->2030	2.5	W 25	L 2	D 5	W 10	L 3
10	LUKE M TRAN	KS 1796->1803	2.5	L 2	W 12	D 13	L 9	W 16
11	CURTIS WILLIAMS	OK 1700->1723	2.5	L 6	W 24	L 8	W 22	H
12	MAXWELL BARNES	OK 1623->1649	2.5	L 7	L 10	D 23	W 24	X
13	AARON PETERS	OK 1515->1597	2.5	W 24	L 14	D 10	L 15	W 21
14	JOE DEAN VEAL	OK 2005->1989	2.0	D 17	W 13	D 6	L 4	U
15	BEN CALUPITAN	OK 1727->1735	2.0	L 3	W 22	L 4	W 13	L 7
16	RICHARD RAVITS	OK 1710->1727	2.0	L 19	W 23	L 7	W 17	L 10
17	LES KLINE	AR 1620->1620	2.0	D 14	L 18	H	L 16	B
18	TOM BRAUNLICH	OK 2200->2201	1.5	H	W 17	U	U	U
19	CHUCK JOHNSON	OK 2077->2063	1.5	W 16	H	L 1	L 5	F
20	JIM BERRY	OK 1832->1839	1.5	L 1	W 21	H	U	U
21	LARRY DEPUTY	OK 1667->1633	1.5	L 4	L 20	H	B	L 13
22	RUBIN A WELLS	OK 1551->1552	1.5	L 5	L 15	W 25	L 11	H
23	SHAUN GRAHAM	OK 1996->1965	1.0	H	L 16	D 12	U	U
24	JAMES JOY	OK 1866->1799	0.5	L 13	L 11	H	L 12	U
25	MIKE PARKER	OK 1697->1663	0.0	L 9	L 8	L 22	U	U

Frank K Berry Memorial 2018
Reserve Section
May 19-20 2018 • Tulsa • TDs: Jim Berry, Tom Braunlich

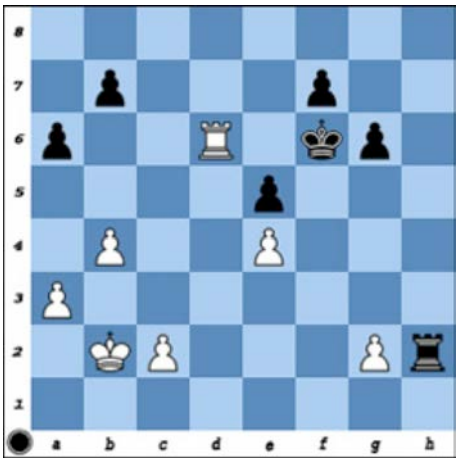
	Player Name (Pre->Post)		Total Pts	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5
1	OSCAR WANG	OK 1586->1583	4.0	W 10	W 17	L 7	W 16	W 3
2	ISTVAN SZABAD	OK 1444->1462	4.0	W 20	D 13	W 6	D 5	W 10
3	SKY MOERLIEN	KS 1340->1395	4.0	W 21	W 18	W 8	W 7	L 1
4	HENRY J ELLIOTT	KS 898->1225	4.0	W 25	L 8	W 22	W 9	W 7
5	BRUCE WELLS	OK 1547->1545	3.5	W 16	D 6	W 12	D 2	H
6	HENRI VAN ZANDWEGHE	KS 1303->1326	3.5	W 19	D 5	L 2	W 20	W 12
7	ADLEY BUFFORD	OK 1365->1365	3.0	B	W 11	W 1	L 3	L 4
8	MICHAEL WATERS	OK 1416->1350	3.0	W 24	W 4	L 3	L 10	W 13
9	KELVIN XIE	OK 1365->1328	3.0	L 11	W 14	W 13	L 4	W 20
10	RAJASEKHAR ATTERI	TX 1303->1319	3.0	L 1	W 21	W 18	W 8	L 2
11	ROBERT A LUGO	OK Unr->1201	3.0	W 9	L 7	L 16	W 18	W 19
12	STUART FLEXNER-BURY	OK Unr->1286	2.5	W 22	H	L 5	W 14	L 6
13	ZACHARY WINN	OK 998->1144	2.5	W 26	D 2	L 9	W 22	L 8
14	UDAY KABIRPANTHI	KS 1015->1075	2.5	D 15	L 9	W 24	L 12	W 16
15	CARLOS GARCIA	OK 1513->1510	2.0	D 14	W 25	H	U	U
16	MAXWELL XIE	OK 1302 >1272	2.0	L 5	W 23	W 11	L 1	L 14
17	GABRIEL TEUBNER	OK 1307->1231	2.0	W 23	L 1	L 20	L 19	W 21
18	PHILLIP WILSON	OK Unr-> 843	2.0	X	L 3	L 10	L 11	W 23
19	JOEY GARDNER	OK 681-> 705	2.0	L 6	L 20	W 23	W 17	L 11
20	LIKO IRONHERRON	OK 422-> 605	2.0	L 2	W 19	W 17	L 6	L 9
21	ZADE MAHAYNI	OK Unr->1141	1.5	L 3	L 10	H	W 25	L 17
22	CHRIS AMBURGY	OK 1318->1237	1.0	L 12	W 24	L 4	L 13	U
23	JUSTIN T. LI	OK Unr-> 398	1.0	L 17	L 16	L 19	W 24	L 18
24	ANDREW LIU	OK 105-> 106	1.0	L 8	L 22	L 14	L 23	B
25	STANLEY HORTON	MO 1504->1415	0.5	L 4	L 15	H	L 21	U
26	JIM MARKLEY	OK 1506->1500	0.0	L 13	U	U	U	U

Games from the FKB Memorial

Johnson, Chuck (2077)
Ravits, Richard (1710) [D61]
FKB Memorial (1.4), 19.05.2018
[TB]
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Qc2 h6 7.Bh4 c6 8.e3 Re8 9.Rd1 Nbd7 10.a3 a6 11.cxd5 exd5 12.Bd3 Bd6 13.Bg3 Bxg3 14.hxg3 Nf8 15.b4 Bg4 16.Rb1 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Ne6 18.Kf1 Ng5 19.Kg2 Rc8 20.Rh4 b5 21.Ne2 Qe7 22.Bf5 Rc7 23.Nf4 Ne6 24.Bxe6 fxe6 25.Ng6 Qd7 26.Ne5 Qd6 27.Qg6 Kf8 28.Rc1 Ree7 29.Rf4! Qd8 30.Qh7 Rf7

31.Qh8+ Ke7 32.Nxf7! Qxh8 [32...Kxf7 33.Qxd8] 33.Nxh8 g5 34.Ng6+ Kf7 35.Ne5+ Kg7 36.Rxf6 Kxf6 37.Rxc6 1-0

Kline, Les (1620)
Veal, Joe Dean (2005) [D00]
FKB Memorial (1.9), 19.05.2018
[TB]
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bf4 c6 5.Qd2 Bg7 6.Bh6 0-0 7.Bxg7 Kxg7 8.e3 Nbd7 [8...Bf5=] 9.Bd3 Qc7 10.e4 [10.0-0 e5 11.e4=] 10...dxe4 11.Nxe4 Nxe4 12.Bxe4 Nf6 13.Bd3 Bd7= [13...Bg4 14.Ne5 Rad8 15.c3 c5≥] 14.h4!? Rac8? 15.h5 Rh8 16.hxg6 [16.h6+±] 16...hxg6 17.0-0-0 c5 18.Rxh8 Rxh8 19.dxc5 Qxc5 20.b4 Qc7 21.Kb2 Be6 22.Nd4 Bd5 23.f3 e5 24.Nb5 Qb6 25.a3 a6 26.Nc3 Bc6 [26...a5≥] 27.Ne4 Nxe4 28.Bxe4 Bxe4 29.fxe4 Rh2 30.Qg5 Qf6 31.Qxf6+ Kxf6= 32.Rd6+



32... Ke7?!
In unbalanced rook endings like this, in which the two sides have pawn majorities on opposite wings, as this one soon will, it is often a matter of who gets their pawns rolling the fastest. This move by black brings back black's king for possible defense on the queenside, but allows white a couple extra tempos in the coming race. I think better would have been 32...Kg5 33.Rb6 f5! to activate the pawns ASAP. Example variation: 34.exf5 gxf5 35.Rxb7 e4 when white must also quickly get his pawns rolling to earn a draw and play some accurate moves: 36.Rg7+ Kf4 37.c4 Ke3 *(37...e3 38.c5 e2 39.Re7 Rxg2 40.Kc1 Kf3 41.Kd2=)* 38.c5 Rh6 39.a4 f4 40.b5 axb5 41.axb5 Rh5 42.Rc7 f3 43.gxf3 exf3 44.b6 f2 45.Rf7 Rxc5 46.b7 Rb5+ 47.Kc3 Rxb7 48.Rxb7 f1Q 49.Re7+ Kf2 50.Rf7+ Kg2 51.Rxf1 Kxf1 =
33.Rb6 Rxg2 34.Rxb7+ Ke8 35.b5?! [35.a4! f5 *(35...Rd2!?)* 36.b5 axb5 37.a5! looks winning.] 35...axb5 36.Rxb5 with white's pawns split they are slower and not as dangerous. 36...f6 37.a4 Re2 38.a5 [38.Rb4 Rd2! 39.a5 Rd6 40.Ra4 Ra6 41.Kc3 f5=] 38...Rxe4 39.Kb3 Re1ô 40.Kc4 Kd7 [40...g5!?] 41.Rb6 Ra1 42.a6 f5 43.Rxg6 Kc7 44.Rf6 f4 45.Kd5 Ra5+ 46.Ke4 Kb8 47.c4 Ka7 48.Re6 Rxa6 49.Rxe5 Rf6 50.Kf3 Kb6 51.Re4 ½ - ½

For JUNE 2018

Top 25 Active Oklahoma Players

	Player	This Month	Change +/-	
1	Advait Patel	2596	11	
2	Howard Zhong	2280	0	
3	Daniel Ng	2273	0	
4	Mark Hulsey	2233	0	
5	Bart Gibbons	2217	0	
6	Tom Braunlich	2201	1	
7	Sergey Galant	2188	0	
8	Joshua Alexander	2142	0	
9	Chibuzo C Ilonze	2133	0	
10	Anthony Paolercio	2108	0	
11	Adonis Turner	2103	0	
12	John Cope	2084	0	
13	James Tyner	2074	0	▲
14	David Luscomb	2072	4	▲
15	Chuck Johnson	2063	-14	▼
16	Charles D Unruh	2062	0	▲
17	Tom Patton	2060	0	▲
18	Logan Zachare	2045	-30	▼
19	Matt Dalthorp	2045	0	▲
20	Michael Nugent	2039	0	▲
21	Charles M Unruh	2039	0	▲
22	Veronika Zilajeva	2030	-3	▲
23	Alan Islas	2024	0	▲
24	James Long	2001	-37	▼
25	Neil Naputo Sr	2000	-48	▼

Player of the Month

GABRIEL TEUBNER

Gabe is a rapidly-improving junior, and was the only player to get a draw with GM Gareyev in the blindfold simul!

Zeng, Sheena (2016)
Patel, Advait (2585)
[E94] FKB Memorial (2.2), 19.05.2018
[TB]
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 Nbd7 [This old-fashioned move instead of the main line 6...e5 7.0-0 Nc6 has become popular recently mainly due to the efforts of GM Radjabov.] 7.0-0 e5 8.d5 [This transposes to the Petrosian Variation which is comfortable for black. White should keep the center tension a little longer with 8.Re1 and wait to see if black plays 8...Re8 before closing the center with 9.d5 when the R on e8 is thought to be poorly placed on e8 instead of f8 where it supports the thrust ...f5 in the future. However, Radjabov and others have been having success with this line anyway.] 8...Nc5 9.Qc2 a5 10.Bg5 h6 11.Be3 b6 12.Nd2 Ng4 13.Bxg4 Bxg4 14.f3
[The players have been following one of the main variations here, but this move by Sheena deviates in a way that helps black. White should play 14.a3 and threaten activity with b2-b4 right away. Example game: 14...Na6 *(14...a4? 15.Bxc5 bxc5 16.Nxa4≤)* 15.Rab1 Bd7 16.b4 f5 17.f3 f4 18.Bf2 axb4 19.axb4 g5 20.Ne2 g4 21.fxg4 Bxg4 22.Nf3 Qf6 23.Kh1 Qg6 24.Neg1 Bf6 25.Rfe1 Kh8 26.Re2 Rg8 27.Be1 Be7 28.Qc3 Nb8 29.Ra1 Rxa1 30.Qxa1 Nd7 31.Qb1 Nf6 32.Bh4 Nxe4 33.Qxe4 Bf5 34.Nxe5 Qxg2+ 35.Qxg2 1-0 Yartsev,P - Liberzon,V (2445)/Kfar Sava 1993]
14...Bd7 15.b3
[Note that white wants to play a3 followed by b2-b4, however if she plays 15.a3 right away black can go 15...a4 to permanently stymie that plan, and this works now because the B on d7 supports the a4 pawn. So she has to take time for b3 first, to prepare a3 and b2-b4.] 15...f5 [In a similar position Kasparov once played 15...h5 followed by B-f6-g5 and trading off dark bishops, followed by ...h4 and ...h3 with an attack. A master game example of this plan here: 16.a3 Na6 17.Rab1 Bf6 18.b4 axb4 19.axb4 Bg5 20.Qd3 h4 21.f4 exf4 22.Bxf4 h3 23.g3 Bf6≥ Ω-Ω (58) Haritakis,T (2320)-Grivas,E (2500)/Athens 1996]
16.exf5

PUZZLES

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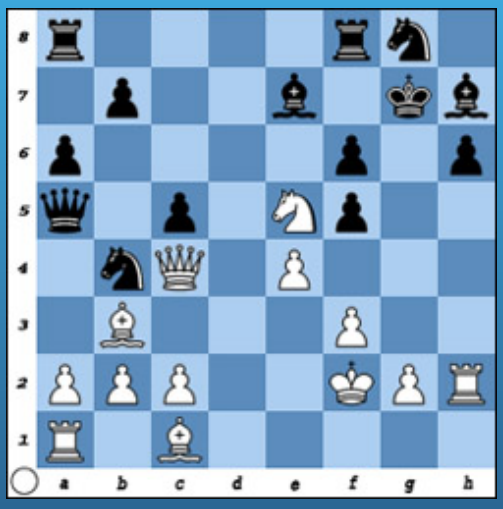
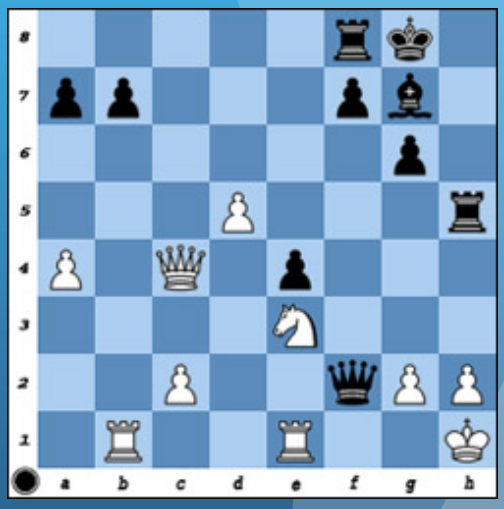
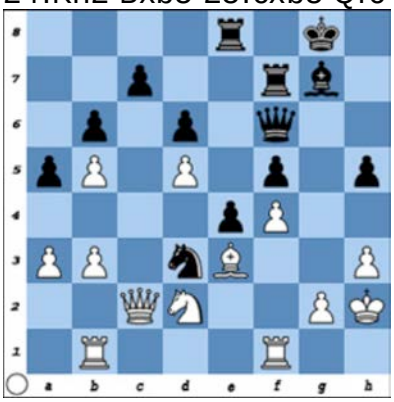


White to move and win. (Medium)



Black to move and win. (Medium)

[This seems best. After 16.a3 f4 17.Bf2 Qf6 looks comfortable for black.] 16...gxf5 17.Rab1 h5 Black's chances lie in conjuring up a kingside attack. This pawn wants to be a battering ram. 18.h3?! Too weakening. [Instead, the thematic plan 18.a3 h4 19.b4 axb4 20.axb4 runs into 20...Na4 which looks good for black. So, white could preface all this with 18.Nb5 h4 19.a3 followed by b2-b4 etc.] 18...Qf6 19.Rfc1?! [19.Nb5] 19...Rae8 20.Nb5 Qd8 21.a3 Finally this plan appears, but with a couple extra moves for preparation Patel is ready with counterplay: 21...e4 22.f4 [22.fxe4 fxe4 23.Rf1≥] 22...Nd3 23.Rf1 Rf7 24.Kh2 Bxb5 25.cxb5 Qf6



White has more pawn weaknesses than black. Especially the d5 pawn. Patel calmly improves his position here. 26.Nc4 Kh7 27.Qe2 Qg6 28.g3 Bf6 29.h4 Rg7 30.Rg1 Reg8 31.Rbd1 Qf7 32.Bf2 Rf8 33.Ne3 Bd4 34.Rd2 Bxe3 35.Bxe3 Kh6 Black is read to take on d5 now, so white must sac the exchange, but it is not going to be enough. 36.Rxd3 exd3 37.Qxd3 Re8 38.Bd2 Re4 39.Re1 Qe7 40.Re3 Rxe3 41.Bxe3 Kg6 42.Kg2 Qe4+ 43.Qxe4 fxe4 44.Kf2 Rf7 45.Bd4 Rf5 46.Ke3 Rxd5 47.Kxe4 Rxb5 48.b4 axb4 49.axb4 Rxb4 50.f5+ Kf7 51.Ke3 c5 52.Bc3 Rg4 53.Kf3 d5 0-1

Bufford,Adley (1365)
Lugo,Robert
[B13] FKB Memorial - Reserve (2.18), 19.05.2018
[TB]
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.Bd3 Nf6 5.Ne2 e6 6.Bg5 Bd6 7.Nd2 Nbd7 8.f4 Qc7 9.Nf3 0-0 10.Ne5 a6 11.c3 h6 12.Bh4 b5 13.Rg1 b4 14.g4 Ne4 15.Bxe4 dxe4 16.g5 Be7 17.Bg3 h5 18.h4 Nxe5 19.fxe5 g6 20.Rc1 Qa5 21.Nf4 Rd8

Answers to the Puzzles

(1) Black's shaky king defense depends on the Ng8, which is the only thing stopping white from the devastating move Bxh6+. Therefore, we can take out this knight, even with a queen sac! 1. Qxg8+! Bxg8 (If 1...Rxg8 then the win is quicker: 2. Bxh6+, Kh8 3. Nf7 mate) 2. Bxh6+ Kh8 3. Bxf8+, Bh7 4. Ng6 mate.

(2) With few white pieces close by, the white king is vulnerable to a sacrifice to draw him out, so 1...Rxh2+ is obvious. But what is the follow-up after 2. Kxh2, Be5+ 3. Kh1?
Here if 3. ... Qh4+ 4. Kg1 and the king wriggles away to the queenside.
The solution is a quiet move. 3. ... Kg7! This frees the way for the f8 rook to surprisingly enter the game with big effect, threatening 4...Rh8 mate. White has no defense.

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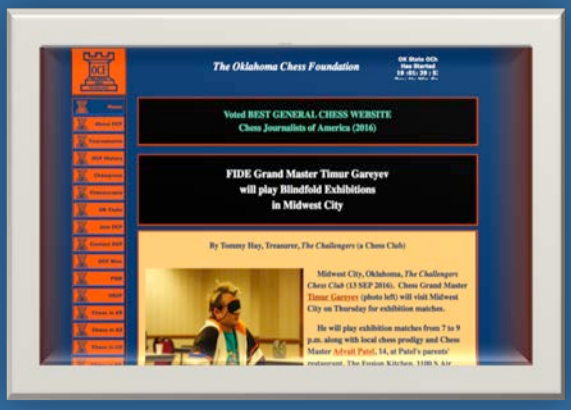
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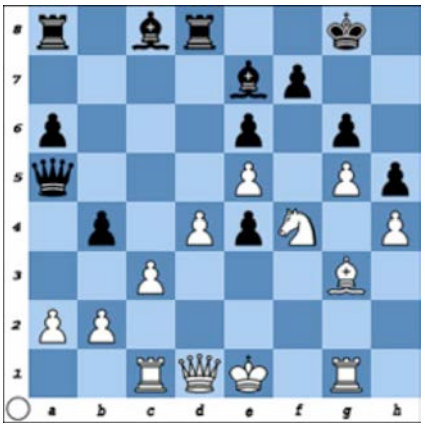


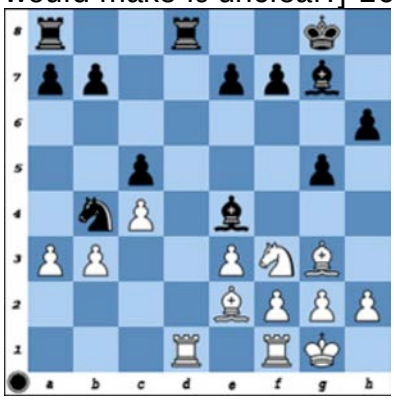
22.Nxh5! gxh5 23.Qxh5 Bf8 24.g6 fxg6 25.Qxg6+ Bg7 26.h5 bxc3 27.Rxc3 Kh8 28.h6 Bf8 29.Qf6+ Kh7 30.Qf7+ Kh8 31.Bh4
Nice game by young Adley Bufford. 1-0

Patel, Advait (2558)
Johnson, Chuck (2077)
[C50] FKB Memorial (3.2), 28.05.2018
[TB]
Chuck Johnson comes closer to a draw with Patel than anyone else at this tournament! ...

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 0-0 6.h3 d5 7.exd5 Nxd5 8.Re1 Be6 9.Nbd2 [9.Nxe5? Nxe5 10.Rxe5 Bxf2+ 11.Kxf2 Qf6+ is an old trap.] 9...f6 10.a4 Qd7 11.a5 a6 12.c3 Ba7 13.Ne4 Nce7 14.d4 exd4 15.Nxd4 Bf7 16.Qb3 c6 17.Bd2 Ng6 18.Qa3 Rad8 19.Nc5 Qc8 20.Nce6!? Bxd4! 21.Nxf8 Bxf2+ 22.Kxf2 Ne5 23.Be2 Nb4!? [23...Qf5+ 24.Kg1 Rxf8 Black has a pawn for the exchange and white is only slightly better. Chuck goes for more...] 24.Qxb4 Rxd2 25.Kg1 Qf5 26.Qxb7 Bd5 27.Qb8 Kf7 28.Qa7+ Kxf8 29.Rad1? [My computer gives as best: 29.Qf2 Qg6 *(29...Qxf2+ 30.Kxf2 Rxb2 31.Kg1)* 30.Rad1 Rxb2 31.Qc5+ Ke8 32.Rxd5 cxd5 33.Qxd5+-]

29...Qe4? [Apparently Chuck missed a draw with 29...Qg5 when white has nothing better than giving perpetual check. 30.Qb8+ *(30.Qf2? Nd3! 31.h4 Nxf2 32.hxg5 Nxd1-+)* 30...Kf7 31.Qa7+ *(31.Bh5+ g6 32.Qa7+ Kg8 33.Rxd2 Qxd2 34.Re2 Qc1+ 35.Kh2 gxh5 36.Qxa6 Qf4+ 37.Kg1 Qc1+=)* 31...Kg6 *(31...Kf8=)* 32.Qf2 Nf3+! 33.Kf1 Nh2+ 34.Kg1 Nf3+=]
30.Qb8+ Ke7 31.Qc7+ 1-0
[31.Qc7+ Nd7 (31...Ke8 32.Bh5+) 32.Bf3 Rxd1 33.Rxd1 Qe3+ 34.Kh1+-]

Amburgy, Ryan (1880)
Zilajeva, Veronika (2033)
[E61] FKB Memorial (3.4), 19.05.2018
[TB]
1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bg5 Bg7 4.e3 0-0 5.c4 c5 6.Nc3 d6 7.dxc5?! [An instructive mistake. This may look "solid", but it is a very bad strategic decision to trade queens here. It hands black a slight edge on a silver platter in the coming queenless middlegame. 7.Be2≤] 7...dxc5 8.Qxd8?! Rxd8≥ 9.Be2 Nc6 10.0-0 Bf5 11.Rad1 Ne4 12.Nxe4 Bxe4 13.b3 h6 14.Bh4 g5 15.Bg3 Nb4 [Black's advantage is obvious, with her much more active pieces (especially those bishops) and white's vulnerable queenside. If: 15...Bc2 Challenging for supremacy of the open file. 16.Rc1 *(16.Rxd8+ Rxd8 17.Rc1 Nb4!* followed by ...Bb2 winning the exchange and the game.*)* 16...Bf5 17.Rcd1 Nb4 We would reach the same position as in the game except with B on f5 instead of e4. What difference that would make is unclear.] 16.a3



16...Nc2 [16...Na2! looks like the best try, giving up on trying to win material but instead playing to threaten ...Nc3 and

domination of the queenside. If 17.Ne5 (allowing the B on e2 to move to h5 if black plays ...Nc3) a) 17.Be5? Bxf3-+; b) 17.Rxd8+ Rxd8 18.Rd1 *(18.Re1 Nc3 19.Bf1 Nb1* etc.*)* 18...Rxd1+ 19.Bxd1 and with the rooks gone white can't defend his queenside. The computer gives this line for example: 19...Bb2 20.Nd2 Bd3 21.a4 Nc3 22.Bf3 Bc1 23.Nf1 Ne2+ 24.Bxe2 Bxe2 25.Bb8 a6 26.Ba7 Ba3 27.Ng3 Bd3!-+; 17...Nc3 18.Rxd8+ Rxd8 19.Bh5 f6! Black is left in control of the open file and white is in big trouble.] Note how in all these variations black's pieces, especially her bishops, dominate white's inactive passive pieces. And all this is a consequence of white's decision to trade queens early in the game. 17.Be5?

A tactical blunder. [17.Ne5 Nxa3 18.Bh5 is white's best chance, getting some piece activity for white. The computer says black keeps a slight edge after 18...Bxe5 19.Bxe5 Nc2 20.Bc7! Rxd1 21.Rxd1 Nb4 when white has the d-file as compensation for the pawn, plus the two bishops.] 17...Nxa3? Too focused on her plan, she misses the opportunity to win a piece: [17...Bxf3-+]

18.Bxg7 Kxg7 19.Rxd8 Rxd8 20.Ra1 Nb1 21.Rxa7 Nc3 22.Kf1 Black still retains an edge thanks to her superior piece activity, but with material reduced it is going to be harder to convert. 22...f6 [22...f5 with the idea of ...Kf6 and ...e5 with expansion on the kingside was probably the best chance. Now white is able to wriggle out to a draw.]

23.g3 Bc2!? 24.Ne1!

[24.Rxb7? Nxe2 25.Kxe2 Bd1+]

24...Be4 25.Nf3 Rd7 26.Ke1 Nxe2 27.Kxe2 Kg6

[27...Bd3+ 28.Ke1 g4 29.Nd2 h5 would keep an annoying bind on white's position. Black could hope to penetrate on the lightsquares with her king, or maybe to play ...h4 at the right moment and penetrate with the rook on the h-file.] 28.Nd2 Bc6 29.g4!= e6 30.Ra5 b6 31.Ra6 Rb7 32.f3 f5 33.h3 Kf6 34.Ra8 Bd7 35.Kf2 Bc6 36.Ke2 Kg6 37.Ra6 h5 38.Ra8 hxg4 39.hxg4 fxg4 40.fxg4 Bg2 41.Ra6 Bc6 42.Ra8 Kf6 ½ - ½

Calupitan, Ben (1727)
Zeng, Sheena (2016)
[E21] FKB Memorial (3.5), 19.05.2018
[TB]

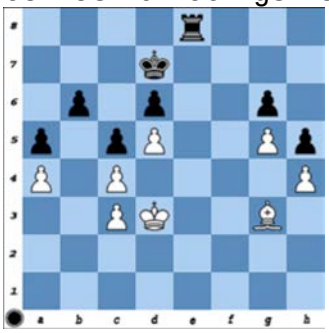
This game is remarkable mainly for Sheena's patience and persistence in a position most people would give up for drawn.

Sheena Zeng

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Nf3 b6 5.g3 Bb7 6.Bg2 0-0 7.0-0 Bxc3 8.bxc3 d6 9.a4 Nbd7 10.Nd2 Bxg2 11.Kxg2 c5 12.e4 Re8 13.Re1 e5 14.d5 Nf8 15.Nf3 Ng6 16.h4 Qd7 17.Nh2 h5 18.Bg5 Ng4 19.Nf1 f6 20.Bd2 f5 21.f3 Nf6 22.exf5 Qxf5 23.Ne3 Qd3 24.Qe2 Qxe2+ 25.Rxe2 Ne7 26.g4 g6 27.g5 Nd7 28.Nf1 Nf5 29.Kh3 Rab8 30.Bc1 a5 31.Nd2 Kf7 32.Nb1 Re7 33.Na3 Rbe8 34.Re4 Rc8 35.Nb5 Nb8 36.Bd2 Na6 37.Rae1 Rce8 38.R1e2 Nb8 39.Be1 Na6 40.Bf2 Nc7 41.Nxc7 Rxc7

The position is drawish, but not a dead draw. One could imagine after some maneuvering black might find a chance to penetrate down the f-file, for example, somehow. Still, all white needs to do is sit on this position and if necessary be prepared to play f3-f4 at the right moment.

Here Sheena plays with remarkable patience.
42.Bg1 Rce7 43.Bh2 Kf8 44.Kg2 Rb8 45.Kh3 Rbb7 46.Rb2 Kf7 47.Re1 Re8 48.Bg1 Kf8 49.Bf2 Kf7 50.Kg2 Kf8 51.Re4 Ree7 52.Kf1 White is afflicted by a desire to do something, and decides upon a regrouping of his king to d3. But it stood better on g2/h3. Sheena's patience starts to pay off. 52...Kf7 53.Ke2 Kf8 54.Kd3 Kf7 55.Rbe2 Kf8 56.Bg1
Here I think what happened is white had been intending to play this line to force equality: 56.f4 exf4 57.Rxf4 Rxe2 58.Kxe2 Re7+ 59.Kd3 -- which is also drawn -- and then perhaps had some second thoughts about it and suddenly thought wouldn't it be better to move my bishop to h2 first and recapture the pawn on f4 with that bishop instead of the rook? And therefore the impulsive bishop move allowing a knight fork was made. This was unfortunate for Ben, but maybe could also be seen as an almost "Buddhist" lesson in patience. His game was ruined by "desire".... the desire to do something rather than to just contemplate the nothingness!] 56...Ng3 57.Bh2 Nxe2 58.Kxe2 This position is not an easy win even now for black. 58...Rf7 59.f4 White must do this now before black can double on the f-file. 59...exf4 60.Bxf4 Rbd7 61.Ke3 Rfe7 62.Bg3 Rxe4+ 63.Kxe4 Ke7 64.Bf4 Rd8 65.Ke3 Kd7 66.Bg3 Re8+ 67.Kd3



White has all the rook invasion squares covered. Now if 67...Rf8 then 67. Ke2 and black can't penetrate on the f-file either. So is this a draw? No, Sheena now uses a little more patience and the idea of "zugzwang" to make progress... 67...Re7! Zug. 68.Bf2 Rf7 threatening penetration on f4 or f3. 69.Ke3 Rf8! Zug. 70.Be1 [70.Bg3 Rf1] 70...Rf1 71.Ke2 Rf4 72.Kd3 Ke7! Zug. 0-1

Bufford, Adley (1365)
Moerlien, Sky (1339) [C54]
FKB Memorial - Reserve (4.14), 20.05.2018
[TB]
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.cxd4 Bb4+ 7.Bd2 Bxd2+ 8.Nbxd2 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.0-0 0-0 11.Nb3 Nb6 12.Be2 Bf5 13.Nc5 Rb8 14.h3 Nd7 15.a3 Nxc5 16.dxc5 Re8 17.Bb5? [One mistake and he is in trouble. Better was 17.Qxd8 Rbxd8 18.Rfe1=] 17...Qf6≥ 18.b4 Rbd8 19.Qa4 Be4! 20.Nh2? [20.Be2 Bd5 21.Rae1 Qg6 and black is better.]

20...Qg6! 21.f3 Bc2 After this sudden win on board one, Sky Moerlien at 4-0 was looking like the magician of the reserve section. 0-1

Sky Moerlien (right) vs. Oscar Wang in round 5 top board key match of Reserve Section.

Everyone was looking forward to this clash between the Blindfold King and the Okie Phenom. The players did not disappoint!

GM Gareyev, Timur (2668)
IM Patel, Advait (2586)
[E76]
Frank K Berry Memorial (4.1), 20.05.2018
[Notes by Patel and Braunlich]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6

Here Gareyev spent nearly 10 minutes choosing a variation, which is surprising since this was a morning game and a King's Indian might have been predicted from Patel.

5.f4!?

Lucky for us he chooses an aggressive but risky line, the Four Pawns Attack. I think this is a rare line in Gareyev's practice. My database shows he normally plays the tricky 5.Be2 and after 5...0-0 he either plays the Averbach Variation (6.Bg5), or the modern tricky line 6.g4!? as he did against Zilajeva in round 2.

Perhaps he thought Patel might be prepared for Be2, or perhaps he wanted to steer the game into unusual paths. After this move, Jim Berry came over to me and whispered, "That ought to wake Advait up! There won't be a gm draw today..."

5...0-0 6.Nf3 c5 7.d5 e6

Patel sticks to the complex main line. I used to have success with the Benko Gambit-style move 7...b5 here, although white has a forced draw if he wants it in that line.

8.dxe6 fxe6 9.Bd3 Nc6 10.0-0 Nd4 11.Ng5

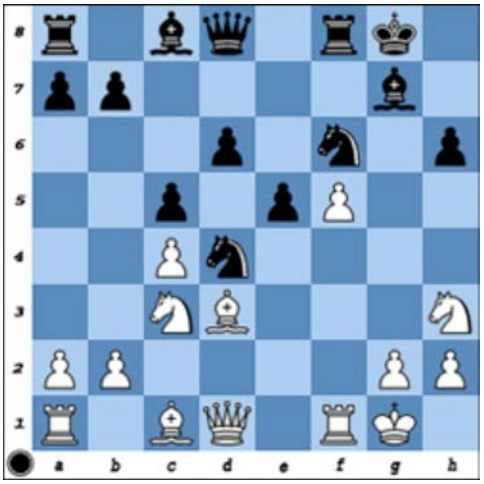
The most aggressive and most popular move! But the database shows 11.Nxd4 scores better for white, although it creates less tactical play. Example game: 11...cxd4 12.Nb5 e5 13.fxe5 dxe5 14.c5!? Be6 15.Bg5 b6 16.b4 bxc5 17.bxc5 Rc8 18.Qa4 Rxc5 19.Qxa7 Rc6 etc. (1-0 (40) Flear,G (2459)-Zhigalko,A (2590)/Lille 2012)]

11...e5 12.f5 h6 13.Nh3!?

GM Timur Gareyev (in red) vs. IM Advait Patel in round 4, with spectators….

Patel -- "Black does well in this line" 13.fxg6 hxg5 14.Bxg5 Be6 15.Nd5 Bxd5 16.exd5 Qd7 17.Bxf6 Bxf6 18.Qh5 e4 19.Bxe4 Qg7 20.Rae1 Be5 21.g3 Rxf1+ 22.Rxf1 Rf8 23.Rxf8+ Kxf8 24.Qg4 Qe7 25.Kg2 Bf6 26.h4 Kg7 27.Kh3 b5 28.b3 a5 29.Qh5 Kf8 30.Qg4 a4 31.cxb5 axb3 32.axb3 Nxb5 33.Qc8+ Kg7 34.Bf5 Nd4 35.h5 Kh6 36.Be6 Kxh5 37.Qg8 Nxe6 38.dxe6 Kh6 39.g4 d5 40.g5+ Kxg5 0-1 Steinfl - Matikozian 2011]

13...gxf5 14.exf5



14...Qe8!?

I don't know if this is the latest theory, but in my day it used to be that 14...b5!? was played here, influenced by analysis by Kasparov in one of his books 30+ years ago. This stemmed from an impressive win by him against American Larry Christiansen in the Interzonal tournament on his way to becoming Karpov's challenger: 15.Be3 bxc4 16.Bxc4+ Kh8 17.Bxd4 cxd4 18.Nd5 Ba6 19.Nxf6 Bxc4 20.Nh5 Bxf1 21.Qg4 Qd7 22.Rxf1 d3 23.Qf3 d2 24.g4 Rac8 25.Qd3 Qa4 26.Nf2 Qd4 27.Qxd4 exd4 28.Nf4 Rfe8 29.Ne6 Rc1 30.Nd1 Bf6 31.Kf2 Bg5 32.Ke2 Rc5 33.Kd3 Re5 34.Nxg5 hxg5 35.Rf2 Re4 36.h3 Re3+ 37.Kxd4 R8e4+ 38.Kd5 Re2 39.Rf3 Re1 40.f6 Rf4 0-1 Christiansen,L (2575)-Kasparov,G (2675) /Moscow 1982/IZT

Gareyev with members of the Tulsa Chess Club.

Patel's move 14...Qe8 has been rarely played, but it looks strong — especially since Gareyev immediately makes a mistake in response. The queen move is logical, supporting the thrust ...e4 as well as possibly popping out to h5. One thing is clear though — Advait was very familiar already with this position, which shows the quality of his preparation.

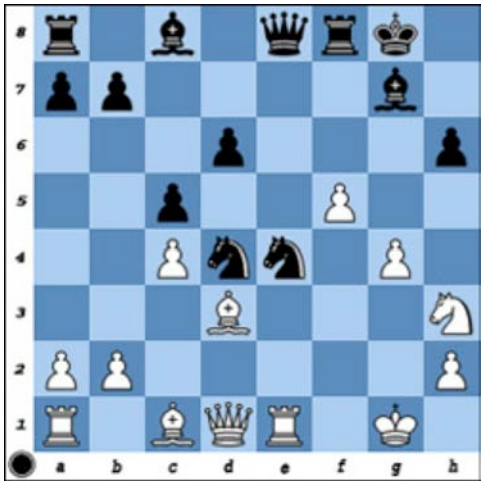
15.g4?!

Gareyev already finds himself under pressure here, as the computer likes this position for black. It's suggestion is for white to offer a pawn to blockade the light squares with 15.Nf2!? Bxf5 16.Bxf5 Nxf5 17.Nfe4 Qe6≥ Unsurprisingly Gareyev, who was in an aggressive mood, rejected this idea, and instead burned his bridges with this kingside pawn thrust. After the game he said he felt at this point like he was "already lost" here!

15...e4 16.Nxe4?

Patel – "White is in a tough spot, but this just loses. 16.Bb1 h5 with a big edge; 16.Be2 e3 with a slight edge."

16...Nxe4 17.Re1



17...Nc3! No doubt Timur had seen this nice tactic coming, but not liking the alternatives perhaps he thought this was his best winning chance, since although black is winning a piece it will be close to being trapped on d1...

maybe he could get pawns for it. (?)

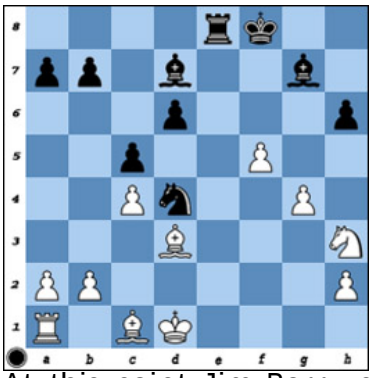
18.Rxe8

[18.bxc3 Qxe1+ 19.Qxe1 Nf3+ 20.Kf2 Nxe1 21.Kxe1 Bxc3+-+]

18...Nxd1 19.Rxf8+ Kxf8 20.Nf4

Unfortunately for white he can't attack the trapped knight on d1 to win it without walking into a horrible crossfire of tactics. For example: 20.Kf1 Bd7 21.Ke1 Re8+ *(Another winning line is: 21...Nxb2 22.Bxb2 Nf3+ 23.Kf2 Bxb2 24.Rb1 Ne5!)* 22.Kxd1 (see diagram)

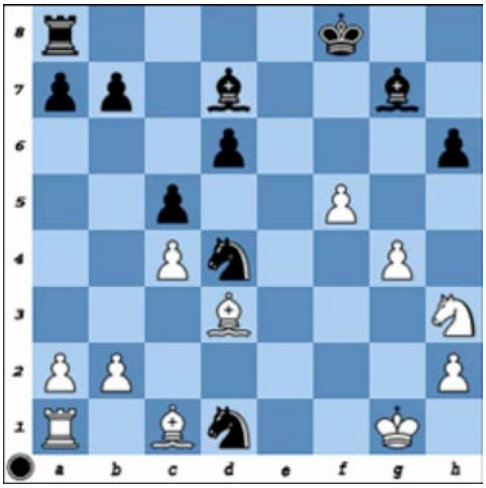
White did win back the piece, but now he would have paid the price:



22...Ba4+ 23.b3 *(23.Kd2 Nf3#)* 23...Nxb3 24.axb3 Bxb3+ 25.Bc2 Bxc2+ 26.Kxc2 Bxa1 27.Bxh6+ Bg7 and wins.

At this point Jim Berry passed Gareyev in the hallway and gave him a quizzical look, to which Timur responded with a big "thumbs down" signal, as if to say, "I'm totally lost."

20...Bd7 21.Nh5



21... Nxb2! 22.Bf1

[22.Bxb2 Nf3+ 23.Kg2 Bxb2 24.Rb1 Ne5 25.Rxb2 Nxd3 26.Rxb7 Bc6+ wins; 22.Nxg7 Nxd3 23.Bxh6 Kf7 is also not enough for white.]

22...Na4 23.f6 Bh8 24.Bxh6+ Kf7 25.g5

At this point it might appear as if the result still is in doubt. White has only one pawn for the piece, but he has three connected passers that could easily become threatening, and after all black's extra piece is way out of play on a4. White only needs to get in Bd3 and g5-g6 to be winning. But it is black's move... and all Patel needs to do to ice the game is make a couple accurate moves that squelch white's counterplay.

25...Nb6!

Patel — "25...Nf5 26.Bh3 is annoying."

Note that this move calmly brings his stray piece back into play, where it performs the function of defending the B on d7 and attacking c4. Good play.

26.Kf2?

Patel — "Now the win is easy. 26.Bd3 is better though black should still definitely win."

26...Bf5 would come in reply just in time. Instead Gareyev tries to get his rook into play on the g-file, but there isn't enough material left to make real threats.

26...Nf5 27.Bd3 Nxh6 28.g6+ Kg8 29.g7 Bxg7 30.Rg1 Ng4+

And with this white runs out of gas...

31.Kf3 Rf8 32.Rxg4 Bxg4+ 33.Kxg4 Bxf6 34.Kf5 Be5+ 35.Kg6 0-1

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UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

For More Tournament Info Visit the USCF Tournament Site:
www.uschess.org/tlas/upcoming.php

June 16, 2018 TULSA QUADS *NEW* Tulsa, OK

4-RR grouped by rating (3 total games with players near your own rating in a round-robin.) G/50+15 spm. (Dual rated). Harvard Avenue Baptist Church, 3235 E. 17th St. (17th & Harvard), Tulsa, OK. Cash Prizes $50 to winner in each quad. REG.: 9-9:45 AM. RDS.: 10:00, 12:30, 3:00 **EF:** $15 cash or check at door, no adv entries. LS W. Inquiries: tom.braunlich@cox.net

June 30- July 1, 2018 Missouri Class Championship Kansas City, MO

5SS, G/115 d5. Unity Village Hotel, 1901 NW Blue Parkway, Unity Village, MO 888-377-0358. Prizes: $$(b/10 per section) M/X $250/$150/$100 A, B, C, D, U1200 $125/$100/$75. Details here: https://goo.gl/t3qtfw Inquiries: Randy Merrell, rwmerrell@gmail.com

June 30- July 1, 2018 73rd OCA Oklahoma Open St. Championship Tulsa, OK

5SS, Rds. 1-2 G/90 d5, Rds. 3-5 G/2 d5. $1500 Guaranteed. Trade Winds Central Hotel, 3141 E Skelly Dr. (I-44, Exit 228), Tulsa, OK, 918-749-5561. **3 Sections: Open** G$$ 500-300-200; **Reserve (U1600)** G$$ 250-150-100; **Booster (U1000)** $$ b/entries; **EF:** $45 if rec'd by 6/25, otherwise $50, Booster Section $35, OCA mem included. **Reg.:** 8:30-9:30am, **Rds.:** Sat 10-2-6; Sun 10 & 3. HR: $55 OCA Annual Memb. Meeting & Election of all Officers and USCF OK Delegate: Sunday 8am; Voting Eligibility: Must be 16, Oklahoma resident & current OCA member; new or renewing members become eligible by submitting OCA dues ($10) postmarked by 10 business days prior to 7/1. **Contact:** Chuck Unruh, PO Box 340, Collinsville, OK 74021, 800-460-2794, chunruh@aol.com. More info: www.ochess.org.

July 13-15, 2018 KANSAS OPEN Lenexa, KS

5SS, G/120 d5. Lenexa, KS (near Kansas City) **Contact:** Laurence Coker, wlcoker7@hotmail.com.

July 14-15, 2018 JERRY SPANN MEMORIAL OKC, OK

5-SS; G/90+30; Wyndham Hotel Oklahoma City, 2945 Northwest Expressway, OKC 73112, (405)848-4811, Free WiFi. Two Sections: Open, and Reserve (U1600). EF: $40 if mailed by 7/9, $50 thereafter, FREE entry for Masters 2200+ (deducted from prizewinnings). Free OCF Memb. Prizes $$2100 (1st prize Gtd., the rest b/62). Open: $500(G)-200 U2100: 200-100, U1900: 200-100, Reserve (U1600): $250-100, U1400: 200-100, U1100/UNR: 150. More $$ if entries permit. Byes: One half-point bye Rds 1-5 if commit before Sat 9PM. REG: 9-9:45 Sat AM Rounds: 10-2:30-7, 9-1:15. Entries to: Tom Braunlich, 7500 S. Birch, Broken Arrow OK 74011. Inquiries: tom.braunlich@cox.net Web: www.ocfchess.org

July 21-22, 2018 ARKANSAS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP Fort Smith, AR

5-SS; G/110;d10; 5805 Hwy 271S, Ft. Smith, AR. 2 Sections. Premiere (1800+) & Reserve(1000-1799): EF: $40; AFTER 7/14/18 +$15. USCF req'd. Prizes: Premiere $525 (G)/$300 (G), Class A $200; Reserve $300 (G), Class B,C,D/u $150/ea. Sat. only -Knights (U1200): 6rd SS, G/35 d5. No-USCF req'd. PF: $75 (G),$40 (G), Class E,F,G/U $30/ea. "Plus" Certificates. EF: $25, after 7/14 +$10. ALL: Class $/ req. 4 min. Check-in: 8-8:45AM. Walk-in reg. closes 8:30AM. Rd. 1 9AM. Bye by Rd. 3. Airport/food/hotels near. AR players: ACA req'd, eligible for AR titles/awards. TD: KarisCM@cox.net See: http://westarkchess.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018-AR-State-Championship-v.5.4-1.pdf

2018 JERRY SPANN MEMORIAL

50th Anniversary

July 14-15 • Oklahoma City OK • 5-SS

Wyndham Hotel Oklahoma City, 2945 Northwest Expressway, OKC

Time Control: G/90+30;

Two Sections: Open, and **Reserve** (U1600).
ENTRY FEE: $40 if mailed by 7/9, $50 thereafter,
FREE entry for Masters 2200+ (deducted from prize-winnings)

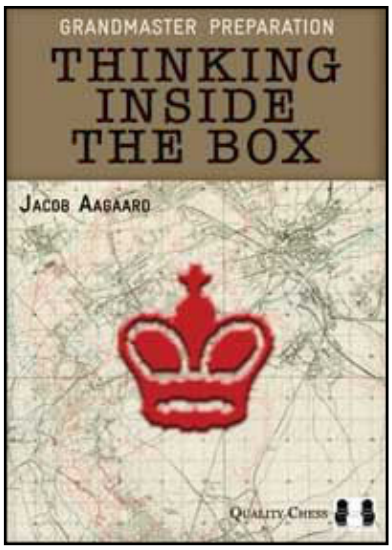
Prizes: $$2100

Open: $500(G)-200 U2100: 200-100, U1900: 200-100,
Reserve (U1600): $250-100, U1400: 200-100, U1100/UNR: 150.
More $$ if entries permit.

Byes: One half-point bye Rds 1-5 if commit before Sat 9PM.
REGISTRATION 9-9:45 Sat AM **Rounds**: 10-2:30-7, 9-1:15.
Entries to: Tom Braunlich, 7500 S. Birch, Broken Arrow OK 74011.
Inquiries: tom.braunlich@cox.net **Web**: www.ocfchess.org

Jerry Spann was a much-beloved early chess organizer in Oklahoma who became President of the U.S. Chess Federation in 1957-1960 and is widely credited with saving the organization from bankruptcy.

When he died in 1968 the players of Oklahoma voted to call the annual state championship the "Jerry Spann Memorial", which is this year celebrating its 50th anniversary.



Review by IM John Donaldson

Grand Master Preparation: Thinking Inside the Box

by Jacob Aagaard, Quality Chess, 408 pages

Grandmaster Jacob Aagaard is one of the world's premier chess writers and trainers and *Grand Master Preparation: Thinking Inside the Box (www.qualitychess.co.uk, available in softcover and hardback formats)* is the sixth and final volume in his self-improvement series of over 2000 pages that is without equal.

The contents of previous books in the series (*Calculation, Positional Play, Strategic Play, Attack and Defense* and *Endgame Play)* were largely explained by their titles, but *Thinking Inside the Box,* arguably the best of the bunch, covers a wider variety of topics.

The bulk of this practical book is centered on decision-making and calculation, two subjects dear to the author's heart as long-time Aagaard student Sam Shankland emphasizes in the Foreword.

This includes learning to broaden one's search for candidate moves and not relying only on one's intuition to generate them.

The chapter on the psychology of chess improvement, incorporating research from other disciplines, offers much practical advice on the path to getting better and can be read with benefit by players of all levels. While this chapter breaks new ground the section on nutrition enters into terra incognito for a chess book.

Aagaard makes vigorous and well-informed arguments in favor of a plant-based diet, but he will have a hard sell among the legions of hardcore carnivores that populate tournament halls and chess clubs around the world. If he convinces but a small number of readers to eat more fruit and vegetables he will have done a good thing. The same hold true for his emphasis on the importance of physical activity.

The final chapter in this book offers an excellent overview of eleven training methods that should be part of every aspiring chess player's routine.

1. Solve exercises and studies
2. Analyze games
3. Play out training positions
4. Work on your openings
5. Memorization
6. Read Books
7. Work on your blindfold abilities
8. Play training games
9. Follow games online
10. Work with other people
11. Play strong tournaments

Thinking Inside the Box is an outstanding book that will prove most helpful for players from roughly 2000 on up. This is not to say that lower-rated players cannot benefit from parts of it, but they will likely be better served by first mastering the fundamentals – one option is working through Artur Yusupov's outstanding nine volume course (also published by Quality Chess).

An excerpt of *Thinking Inside the Box* can be found at:

https://www.qualitychess.co.uk/ebooks/Thinking_Inside_the_Box-excerpt.pdf

Highly Recommended

The Team Photos from the 16th Red River Shootout …

2018 Oklahoma Chess Team

Photo by Taj Mohammed

2018 Texas Chess Team

Photo by Mike Tubbs